

**8 PM.** No pets allowed. There is no admission fee. 5:00 PM and noon to 5 PM on Sundays. Area Hours: 8 AM to Nature Center is open Monday through Saturday 8:00 AM to mile north of I-70 on Hwy 7, one mile west on Park Road. The Phone: 816-228-3766 BURR OAK WOODS CONSERVATION NATURE CENTER is located one

### **Conservation Nature Center** Burr Oak Woods

1401 NW Park Road

Blue Springs, Missouri 64015

Phone: 816-228-3766 TDD: 816-655-6268 Fax: 816-655-6267

Lynn Youngblood NATURE CENTER MANAGER INTERPRETIVE *PROGRAM* 

**SUPERVISOR** 

R. Craig Hensley

### NATURALISTS

Shalena Tolbert Stephanie Acers Lisa LaCombe Diane Neal Sheri Medlock Carol Barclay Jenna Rhodes

#### CLERICAL

Lauren McCarthy, Office Supervisor

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## MAINTENANCE

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Jeremy Jones David Bilyeu Rachael Butler Ed Miller

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MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

BURR OAK WOODS CONSERVATION NATURE CENTER

The Nutshell

1401 NW Park Road - Blue Springs, MO 64015



# Vutshel

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center Volume 18 **July 2004** Number 07

### Getting A Facelift Burr Oak Woods

sales tax initiative. A promise was made, and kept, to the people of the state and Blue Springs, neighboring Kansas City, was chosen. and the first land acquisition after the "Design for Conservation" Burr Oak Woods was the first nature center built by the Departmer and interpretation for the Missouri Department of Conservation. with it opened all the hopes and dreams of environmental educatio Missouri for nature centers in the four largest metropolitan areas o Twenty-two years ago the doors of this nature center opened and

and thousands of kids of all ages have participated in interpretive nature center were the reason for this land acquisition. Thousands birdwatching, and all other sorts of nature study and appreciation al Burr Oak Woods, the nature center. over these acres. All of these activities have started in the heart of programs, guided hikes, outdoor skills, wildlife, forestry, The rich, diverse habitats of 1,100 acres which now surround the

system needed updating, and the restrooms needed to be more the problems. The floor in the classroom was sagging, the sprinkle show. Maybe not at the first look, but past the cosmetic make-up and accessible. The nature center, as much as we loved her, needed a deeper into the depths of the nature center you would see some of Like many of us, after twenty-two years age was beginning to

of Conservation commissioners, especially Kansas City interpretative programs to serve you. to continue to bring you the best. We will have a cutting edge granted. We have now embarked on a two-year, two-phase endeavor Commissioner Anita Gorman, our request for improvement was interpretive facility with the best in environmental education and With strong support from Director John Hoskins and Departmen

MISSOUR

Renovation. The building closed June 1 and is scheduled to reoper This summer begins Phase 1: The Building: Nature Center



nature center in the front lot. Our reception area, some live animal all housed there. Folks are amazed at how nice it is inside! Stop by exhibits, interpretive exhibits, the nature shop, and classrooms are sometime, and keep coming back, you'll love it! October 1. All programs and services will continue out of our small

with more ADA accessibility and more seats added. Again, the work correctly; you just can't see it from the outside.) audiovisual will be improved. All of the other renovation activity wait 'till you see these!) The auditorium will be completely re-done capabilities. The lobby area will knock your socks off, and the sink and new audiovisual components increasing our programming like putting in a Pacemaker®, it's necessary for the whole body to will be in areas that you can't see, but really needed to be done. (It's restrooms are to die for! (I know that might sound silly, but just During this renovation, each of our classrooms will be getting a

and greatest in hands-on interpretation. Wild Missouri will be more comfortable to venture out on your own. interpretive exhibits will be renovated, bringing to you the latest of you who are a little shy about nature and the outdoors will feel brought indoors for you to gain a better understanding, so that those Next Year will begin Phase 2: The Exhibits. In 2005, all of our

the positive outcomes. make all of this happen. We are very excited about this process and programming, the staff will begin a strategic planning process to Throughout this summer, besides continuing with the regular

all new exhibits will be installed. This change is one I don't think while others seem to thrive. The changes that will happen to the you will mind, either. They will be wonderful! It's all very exciting! will be familiar. Then next year when Phase 2 has been completed most of the old exhibits will be back in the building, so that part some big changes, like the restrooms and the floor in the lobby, but everyone. When we reopen in October, you will immediately notice nature center will occur in stages, so it should be acceptable for ahead for Burr Oak Woods. Change is difficult for some people, There will be many changes in the next few months and years

while the workers are making magic behind the walls! still answering phones, questions, and helping at the nature shop these wonderful woods, prairies, streams, glades and fabulous The naturalists are still giving programs, and the receptionists are hiking trails. Remember, they're all here for you! And, so are we! In the meantime, please keep coming by and taking advantage of

will reopen ready to fulfill more hopes and dreams for future Twenty-two years after it first opened, Burr Oak Woods' doors



– Lynn Youngblood Nature Center Manager

Helping Missourians connect with nature and conserve it, too!

## Painted Woods

#### 2:00 p.m. Families (all ages) Sunday, July 11



too! Join us on this we need your help, We've teamed up with Home Depot to

and painting. We're Sunday afternoon for some family fun



spirit, be creative, and have fun at the same time! Then we'll put them on the side of the going to paint images of animals, trees, birds, and those things that live in Burr Oak Woods Please call to register. temporary building. Get in the community

## 9:00 a.m. Families (with children 10 and up) Saturday, July 31

Burr Oak Woods Butterfly Count



area in search of those species of and scour the fields and forests of the count at Burr Oak Woods Conservation Join us for the second annual butterfly butterflies that call Burr Oak Woods Nature Center. We'll break into teams home. From swallowtails and fritillaries

a day of fun. Please call to register. We opportunity to learn about these delicate children from the ages of 10 and up. recommend this count for adults and to blues and skippers, this is a great wonders and join like-minded people in



# Critter Corner

# Snowberry Clearwing Moth

resembles a bumblebee with a yellow thorax and yellow and black abdomen moths because they resemble hummingbirds hovering above •This is a moth that belongs to a group called the hummingbird Unlike other moths, the snowberry clearwing is flowers. This particular clearwing, however, more closely

honeysuckle, butterfly bush, coral berry and of opportunities for feed on the nectar of course snowberry. The snowberry dlearwing uses its during the day allows this moth plenty of flowering plants. Its favorite food sources are diurnal or active during the daylight. Being active flexible tube or proboscis to drink nectar from these

•Female snowberry clearwing moths will release a pheromone to attract a mate. Often times people will see clearwing moths

clearwing moth. -Stephanie Acers chasing each other through their garden but disregard them as bumblebee, you never know, it might just be a snowberry bumblebees chasing each other. After mating the female your gardens closely and take a second glance at that and in city yards and gardens. So this summer watch will lay her eggs on one of the preferred food plants. September. They can be seen in forests, brushy fields, throughout Missouri from late March through After five to seven days the eggs begin to hatch Snowberry clearwing moths can be found have a tiny rear horn resembling a black hair. and after 10 days details can be seen on the have a raised yellow rim on their head and nine dark spots down their body. They also caterpillar. They are green caterpillars with

# Catch and Release Family Fishing

# 9:00-11:00 a.m. Families (with children 5 and up)

Saturday, July 10 or 24

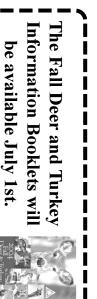
What could be more enjoyable than to enjoy a warm

the nature center. So join our staff and age 16-65 must have a valid Missouri equipment, even the worms! Participants hole? No experience is necessary for this summer morning with your family at the fishin volunteers for a great time. The pond is jump start program. We provide all fully accessible. Please call to register. fishing license, which can be purchased at



Fishing Tip

heavy equipment because flatheads can get big. live bluegills or large minnows and bring your and structure on our larger rivers and lakes. Use are loners and can be found around root wads have missed something. These wonderful fish experience a flathead catfish dinner you If you have never had a chance to

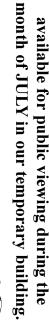


Grandma's Nature Story Hour Come join volunteer Grace for Burr Oak Woods Every Saturday

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.







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# Vaturalis Notebook ~

# Butterfly Watching

and are seen flying through October. They fly high bird watching, and no wonder! There are more than silvery question mark on the underside of the hind wings. carrion and dung! What discerning taste! Or the humble amongst the tree tops descending to taste the flowers or black, yellow, and blue butterfly, and have projections on Missouri! For instance, the beautiful Tiger Swallowtail is can be seen near puddles, streams and lakes. nettles, animal droppings, carrion, and rotting fruit. They These butterflies visit elm and hackberry trees, as well as Question Mark. The Question Mark gets its name from the the hind wings, hence the name. They emerge in April found statewide and is found in a variety of habitats, including our own back yard. They are a spectacular 198 fantastic species of butterflies that grace our state of 100,000 species throughout the world. Indeed, there are Butterfly watching is becoming almost as popular as

attracted to nectar producing flowers. What flowers are that is protected from wind. Remember...butterflies and sunny location. Butterflies need the warmth of the sun to most attractive to Missouri butterflies? Don't forget to are also fascinating to watch. You can attract these insects refrain from using pesticides in your garden. pesticides do not mix. If you want to attract butterflies heat their bodies. The garden should be located in an area include plants that are eaten by the caterpillars. Choose a basic principles for attracting butterflies. Butterflies are to your yard by planting a butterfly garden. There are five Everyone knows that butterflies are beautiful, but they

> your exciting new hobby! For more information, come out us for fun and educational butterfly programs during July! to the nature center and ask for our free brochures. Join Lisa LaCombe Most important of all, take the time to get out and enjoy



#### Fast Facts:

- butterfly is produced by thousands of minute, colorful scales. Did you know that the color on the wings of a
- warm up on a cool spring morning. are useful in absorbing heat and helping it to The dark spots that you see on many butterflies
- Many butterflies taste with their feet.
- black are usually not eaten by birds because Butterflies that are yellow and black or red and

# Natural Happenings

- •Female cicada-killer wasps can be seen preying on cicadas
- •Black Rat snakes are laying eggs.
- •Fall webworms are building their web nests.
- Summer nights are filled with the sounds of katy dids singing.

Many young birds are leaving the nest.







## Lewis and Clark Corner



# Lewis and Clark Pemmican

updated recipe: into cakes called Pemmican. Try some at home with this (pounded into powder), berries, and hot fat. This mixture was dried their journey. The Teton Sioux taught them to make a high-energy 'fast" food that could be carried anywhere. They used dried meat Lewis and Clark learned many things from the Plains Indians on

- grind until well mixed. Set aside. cranberries, and 1 cup nuts or sunflower seeds in a blender; Place 1 cup of broken beef or buffalo jerky, 1 cup dried
- butter is softened. 1/4 cup peanut butter. Microwave 20 seconds or just until peanut • In a microwave-safe bowl, combine 2 teaspoons honey and
- Stir meat and nut mixture into peanut butter mixture.
- Press the mixture into a plastic-lined 8X8-inch baking dish.
- Try this the next time you are taking a hike for a convenient •Cover tightly and store in the refrigerator.

energy boost.

# Lewis and Clark Trunks Available

expedition carried, as they discover the importance of natural are available for a one week check outs. These trunks will give Clark Educational Resource Trunks available (primary level 655-6263 x223 to reserve a trunk today! today. Lesson plans are also included. Please call Lauren at 816students a chance to handle tools and materials similar to those the kindergarten - 3rd grade and secondary level 4th - 6th grade), which Summer is here and academic activities are difficult to find. resources to the westward expansion and compare them to those of Homeschoolers look no further! Burr Oak Woods has Lewis and

# Nature Centers Kick off Lewis & Clark

Journaling Adventure

Burr Oak Woods. We'll stamp it and you'll recieve a Lewis and record your experiences in true Lewis and Clark to explore the Conservation Department's nature begun a new program entitled "Journaling With Lewis and and start exploring today! journal, you'll receive a special award for your efforts! Come out your journal and visit the other locations around the state to and Clark commemorative pin for your efforts. Then take booklet. Simply stop by and pick up a copy of the centers and interpretive sites throughout Missouri Clark: A Discovery of Outdoor Missouri." Your mission is throughout Missouri, the Missouri Department of Conservation has complete their journaling tasks. Once you've completed your booklet and complete the journaling task outlined for fashion in a special Journaling with Lewis and Clark In concert with the Lewis and Clark celebrations going on

Noiscovery of Outdoor Nissouri

Sacagawea, Bird Woman... Who was she really? Images of the Last Frontier...

Friday, July 23

7:00 p.m. Families (with children 6 and up)

children, and immortalized member of the Lewis and Clark century. Please call to register. naturalist, recounts Sacagawea's thoughts on the journey of the Expedition. Please join us as Dianne Moran, folklorist and wife of French fur trapper, Toussaint Charbonneau, mother of two Sacagawea speaks to us through the ages as a Shoshone woman,

# Plants of the Lewis & Clark Expedition

Sunday, August 1

2:00 p.m. Families (with children 12 and up)

or Lewis & Clark enthusiast! Please call to register. sign your copy of his wonderful book. A must-have for the botanist their journals. After the presentation, Wayne will be on hand to Clark while discussing the related observations of the explorers in Lewis & Clark trail. With stunning photography, he will show you botany. He will take you from St. Louis to Fort Clatsop along the the characteristic landscape and plants encountered by Lewis &Ecologist, will present a slide show that combines history with home in Great Falls, Montana. Wayne, formerly a Forest Service Join us as author and botanist, H. Wayne Phillips, joins us from his

# GO WILL

**Youngsters** 

Youngsters

l2 years old and up

### WITH THE NATURALISTS AT BURR OAK WOODS!

#### 6 to 8 years old **Youngsters**

ribbiting amphibians, frogs and toads. and bring water. Please call to register. to catch a few. Be sure to dress to get wet explore the underwater world of those Hop, Skip, and Jump different and even get our feet wet trying We will learn what makes these animals We are heading out to the pond to

9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

# Bugs, Slugs, and Thing-a-ma-

crawly critters. We will be turning over water. Please call to register. we'll find. Dress to get dirty and bring there's just no telling what creepy critters hidden animals. From worms to spiders, logs, rocks, and leaves in search of these Every kid loves bugs and other creepy



9:00 a.m. to 11:00

a.m

#### register. July 15 "M" Files naturalists in black! Your students will be asked to become special agents of this Ladies and Gentlemen, we've called in the 9 to 11 years old

challenge your skills against others in a

relay race through a course designated just

a map and compass? After learning the

nowhere and wished you knew how to use

Have you ever been in the middle of **Map and Compass Challenge** 

ABC's of the map and compass, we will

the clues surrounding this case, using rap sheets forest! Bring a bottle of water. Please call to and eyewitness accounts. See if you can uncover the clues somewhere deep within the Intelligence reports indicates that we will identify the "mystery mammal" in a lineup. team. We will work together to uncover

9:00 to 11:00 a.m

water. Please call to register.

dress for the outdoors and bring bottled

for map and compass knowledge. Please

# **Burr Oak Creek Expedition**

9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Join in on the fun! Please call to register. waiting to be discovered. Join the aquatic Dress to get wet and muddy and bring water! ecology team as we explore its hidden wonders. Burr Oak Creek has many delightful secrets just

9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

#### Gone Fishin'

bring water. Please bait and equipment. Dress for the weather and Burr Oak Woods fishing pond. We provide the your first fish. We will learn about some of "the big one." Then we'll try our luck at the Missouri's native fish and what it takes to catch There is nothing more exciting than reeling in call to register.

#### Gone Fishin'

reeling in your first fish. We will learn equipment. Dress for the weather and fishing pond. We provide the bait and we'll try our luck at the Burr Oak Woods what it takes to catch "the big one". Then about some of Missouri's native fish and There is nothing more exciting than July 16 bring bottled water. Please call to register.

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.



# Outdoor Skills Camp!

as air rifles, archery, canoeing and fishing! Come on out, make some new friends, and experience a small taste of real adventure this of learning new skills? Then this camp is for you! We will work together in teams to try our hand at some really cool outdoor skills such summer! Safety is first during these special programs. Don't miss it! Please call to register Welcome to the 4th annual Outdoor Skills Camp! Does your child love to explore and have fun in the outdoors? Do they like the challenge



July 6 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. age 9-12 8 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. age 9-12 7 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 13 and u

July 19 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 13 and up 20 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. age 9-12 21 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 13 and up

## Outdoor Skil ls Challenge Day!

in the challenge. Please call to register. have fun! Prizes and special awards will be handed out. You must have attended one of the outdoor skills camps in July to participate Are you ready to attempt the Burr Oak Woods Outdoor Challenge Course? It is time to put your new skills to the test. You are sure to

**July 9 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. ages 9-12** 1:00 a.m. - 3:00 a.m. 13 and up

22 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 13 and up 1:00 a.m. - 3:00 a.m. ages 9-12

# 7

# Program Registration

month to register for the FREE to cancel, please call as soon as before the program time. If you have 655-6268) on or after the 1st of the possible so someone on the waiting important to arrive five minutes programs list on this page. It is Please call **816-228-3766 (TDD 816-**

3 Saturday

# Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

## Get Your Feet Wet

you and me. This program will examine the of streams. Streams provide important habitat, activities. Just jump right in! Please call to register and are a source of water for wildlife and for of water conservation through many hands-on, fun water cycle, water pollution and the importance You will be intrigued as we explore the wonder

Ages: Families (children 8 and up) Time: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

## Outdoor Skills Camp

See details on page 3. Please call to register. Ages: 9-12

Time: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

7 Wednesday

## Outdoors Skills Camp

See details on page 3. Please call to register.

Time: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Ages: 13 and up

See details on page 3. Please call to register. Outdoors Skills Camp Ages: 9-12

Time: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m

## Outdoor Skills Challenge

See details on page 3. Please call to register. **Ages: 9-12** 

Ages: 13 and up Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

10 Saturday

### Family Fishing

See details on page 3. Please call to register. Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ages: Families (children 5 and up)

# Bring on the Butterflies

and identify common butterflies found in air? We will learn the life cycle of the butterfly to register. Missouri. Then we will go outside to look for the real thing. Dress for the weather. Please call was fluttering its beautiful colors through the Have you ever wondered what kind of butterfly

Time: 12:30-2:00 p.m. Ages: Families (children 5 and up)

#### 11 Sunday

#### Archery 101 Adults Only:

Did you ever want to learn how to shoot weather. Please call to register. as we practice shooting at targets. Dress for the learn the basics of archery and test your skills archery? Well, now is your chance! You will

Time: 1:00-2:30 p.m. Ages: Adults only (18 and up)

#### Adults Only: Hiking Club

of water and dress for bugs and heat. Please experience the nature trails of this large heading to Lake Jacomo in Blue Springs to their monthly trek. This month they'll be Jackson County park. Be sure to bring plenty Join the Burr Oak Woods Hiking Club for

Time: 1:00-4:00 p.m. Ages: Adults only (18 and up)

11 Sunday

### Painted Woods

See details on page 2. Please call to register.

Ages: Families (all ages) Time: 2:00 p.m.



13 Tuesday

Go Wild!

# Bugs, Slugs, and Thing-a-ma-lugs

See details on page 3. Please call to register. **Ages: 6-8** 

Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

13 Tuesday

Bur Oak Creek Expedition Go Wild!

See details on page 3. Please call to register Ages: 9-11

Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

14 Wednesday

Gone Fishin'

See details on page 3. Please call to register. Ages: 9-11

Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

14 Wednesday

Go Wild!

# Map and Compass Challenge

See details on page 3. Please call to register. Ages: 12 and up

Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

15 Thursday

Go Wild!

Hop, Skip and Jump

See details on page 3. Please call to register. **Ages: 6-8** 

Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

15 Thursday

"M" Files Go Wild!

See details on page 3. Please call to register. Ages: 9-11

Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

16 Friday

Go Wild!

Gone Fishin'

See details on page 3. Please call to register. Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ages: 12 and up

#### Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Evening Fishing

event! Ages between 16 and 65 must have a fishing permit to participate. Please call or We will begin with the basics of fishing and the outdoors with a pole in hand! Grab your try our skill. You do not want to miss this family and friends for an evening of fishing What a great way to enjoy a cool evening in

Time: 6:00-9:00 p.m. Ages: Families (children 5 and up)

### Metamorphosis:

Dance of the Butterfly

activities. Please call to register. the wild and wonderful world of Missouri metamorphosis through fun-filled, hands-on butterflies. We will learn about Bring your little scientist out to learn about

Ages: 3-6

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

# Macro-Invertebrate Mayhem

Stream Families:

the data to determine the water quality. We will conclude our research with aquatic insects in Burr Oak Creek! Each educational, interactive games. Please call need you! Come out and help us survey the Calling all budding stream ecologists! We tolerance levels to pollution. We will use species of aquatic insect has specific

Ages: Families (children 10 and up) Time: 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Adults Only:

# Introduction to Canoeing

want to miss out on this fun-filled program. techniques, the best places to go, and just but did not know how to acquire the skills call to register. Come out and learn the basic strokes, rescue Be prepared to get muddy and wet. Please how to plan a trip of your own. You won't you needed? Then this is the class for you! Have you ever wanted to learn how to canoe,

Ages: Adults only (18 and up) Time: 1:00-4:00 p.m.

## Outdoor Skills Camp

See details on page Time: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Ages: 13 and up 3. Please call to register.

See details on page **Ages: 9-12** Outdoors Skills 3. Please call to register. Camp

Time: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

21 Wednesday

#### Outdoors Skills Camp

See details on page Time: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Ages: 13 and up 3. Please call to register.

#### 22 Thursday

See details on page 3. Please call to register. Outdoor Skills C Ages: 13 and up Thallenge

Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Time: 1:00-3:00

p.m.

Ages: 9-12

### Sacagawea, Bird Woman... Images of the Last Frontier...

Who was she really?

See details on page 6. Please call to register Time: 7:00-8:30 p.m. Ages: Families (children 6 and up)

### Family Fishing

See details on page Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m. Ages: Families (children 5 and up) 6. Please call to register.

## Frontiers: Animal Signs

and dress for the weather. Please call to register. and other animal signs. Bring a water bottle nature hike and look for nests, tracks, burrows learning about animal signs. We will take a Join us for another exciting frontiers program

Ages: All Ages

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

8

7

#### Who Eats You?

Burr Oak Woods and take our "Who Eats You" different predator and prey species that live at animal eat a smelly skunk? Come learn about What does a turkey vulture eat? Would any challenge. Please call to register.

Time: 1:00-2:00 p.m. Ages: Families (children 5 and up)

# Burr Oak Woods Butterfly Count

See details on page 2. Please call to register. Time: 9:00 a.m. Ages: Adults with children 10 and up



31 Saturday

# Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

will take home a butterfly craft. Please call to with the butterflies up close and personal. We butterfly we catch. What a great way to spend are everywhere! We will go out to the prairie Butterflies Everywhere! and catch butterflies. We will identify every It is this time of the year again when butterflies

Ages: Families (children 5 and up) Time: 9:30 a.m.-Noon

1 Sunday

Plants of the

Lewis & Clark Expedition

See details on page 6. Please call to register. Time: 2:00-3:30 p.m. Ages: Families (with children 12 and up)